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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CHILD PORNOGRAPHER
SENTENCED TO 27 YEARS**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that ERNEST NEWSOM, 43, formerly of Lawrence, Indiana, was sentenced to 27 years imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following conviction at a trial April 10, 2003 for producing, receiving and possessing child pornography. This case was the result of an investigation by the Lawrence Police Department and the U.S. Customs Service.

In July 2002, Lawrence Police Department officers obtained a search warrant to search Newsom's home. In the residence, they located two computers, computer disks, and

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videotapes which contained several hundred images of child pornography. Several segments on the videotapes contained nude and semi-nude sexually explicit images of two minors who Newsom had access to between 1997-2001.

Newsom was convicted at his trial of producing child pornography using a ten-year-old girl, knowingly receiving 22 images of child pornography, and knowingly possessing images of child pornography. A video camera Newsom used to film the child pornography was seized during execution of the search warrant. The testimony presented at trial also explained hidden camera systems Newsom had in his home, including one in a bathroom, and one within a television that the ten year old girl used.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Gayle L. Helart, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney also imposed 3 years supervised release following NEWSOM's imprisonment. NEWSOM must also receive sex offender treatment, drug treatment, and mental health treatment. Further, he will be allowed no unsupervised contact with children.

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